and individuals, Ministries|Departments of the Central and the State Governments. The new stringership scheme also provides an opportunity to get spot reports on developmental activity in the country. Therefore, it has been decided that there is no need to assign production of such programmes to outside individual producers|firms on the long term basis. Developmental magazine programmes are, however, being telecast over Doordarshan on a regular basis.

Agricultural Education

2635. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to take certain steps to make the agricultural education more meaningful;

(b) if so, what specific changes are proposed to be made in the existing courses of study and research work in the agricultural universities; and

(c) what are the guidelines which have been sent to the State Governments and the agricultural universitties for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) Agricultural education in the State Agricultural Universities in the country has been organised as professional degree programmes in various branches of agriculture. The curricula of these degree programmes are reviewed from time to time to incorporate necessary changes according to the requirements of agricultural development. In 1978, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research had constituted a Committeee to review the educational functions of the State Agricultural Universities. Based on the recommendations of this Committee a Deans' Committee was constituted to review and reformulate the curricula of the various degree programmes. The report of this Committee has been finalised and sent to the State Agricultural Universities for their consideration and implementation.

The salient features of the recommendations of the Deans' Committee are the inclusion of necessary courses in basic sciences and humanities, a strong core programme in the concerned disciplines and the inclusion of a number of elective courses to enable the students to prepare for work in various specialised fields. Provision has also been made for adequate practical training within the academic programme.

Increase in production of pulses

2636. SHRI ADINARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to increase the production of pulses during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the State-wise target set for this purpose during the Sixth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the details of results achieved in this regard in Andhra Pradesh and other States in that plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State-wise targets of production and results achieved during the Sixth Five Year Plan period are given below:—